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EXAMINER

MEW, KEVIN D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2616

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/661,950	Applicant(s) LEPPISAARI ET AL.	
	Examiner Kevin Mew	Art Unit 2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 March 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 24-28, 34, 42-48, 54 and 55 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 24-28, 34, 42-48, 54 and 55 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 September 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Detailed Action

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's Remarks/Arguments filed on 3/29/2007 have been fully considered. Claims 1-23, 29-33, 35-41, 49-52, 56 have been cancelled by applicant. Claims 24-28, 34, 42-48, 54-55 are currently pending.
2. Upon further consideration by the examiner, the finality of that action is withdrawn and a new ground(s) of rejection is made to claims 24-28, 34, 42-48, 54-55.

Drawings

3. Figures 1, 2, 3a and 3b should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

4. The numbering of claims is not in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126 which requires the original numbering of the claims to be preserved throughout the prosecution. When claims are canceled, the remaining claims must not be renumbered. When new claims are presented, they must be numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claims previously presented (whether entered or not).

Claim 53 is missing in the amendment submitted by the applicant. Misnumbered 54-56 claim should be renumbered as claims 53-55, respectively. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 24-28, 34, 42-48, 54-55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Widegren et al. (USP 6,937,566) in view of admitted prior art (background of the invention) of instant application.

Regarding claim 24, Widegren discloses a method for allocating radio resources in a packet-switched data transmission system, in which system a terminal is capable of communicating with a network over a radio interface by using packet transfer mode, wherein the method comprises:

sending and generating from the terminal to the network (sending request for a radio bearer to a UTRAN network, col. 12, lines 1-11), the second radio resource request from the terminal to the network for allocating a radio resource to the terminal for packet-switched communication (service node requests a radio access bearer from UTRAN for communication with a mobile radio, col. 2, lines 58-61);

the second radio resource request comprises an express indication on whether the radio resource is requested for a real-time service (the radio bearer request analyzes the type of data to determine whether the radio resource requested is for real time data, col. 11, lines 52-65), and

wherein the radio resource request is implemented by a protocol layer (radio access bearers are mapped to RLC/MAC layer) which defines procedures that enable radio resources to be allocated (channel resources are allocated, col. 13, lines 31-43) and divided among multiple users (selection of a radio channel for each particular mobile station, col. 13, lines 31-43).

Widgren does not explicitly show generating and sending from the terminal to the network a first radio resource request for allocating a radio resource for transmission of a second radio resource request.

However, the instant application discloses on page 5, lines 22-28 in the background of the invention that in a 2-phase network access of a GSM network, it is well-known in the art that a mobile station MS first sends a packet channel request, wherein it only asks the network for radio resources for the transmission of a packet resource request. After again receiving a specific assignment message from the network, the MS sends a second packet resource request for the allocation of the radio resources.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the with radio resource allocation system and method of Widegren with the teaching of the background disclosure of the instant application in having a 2-phase access request from a mobile station to a network so that a mobile station MS first sends a packet channel request, wherein it only asks the network for radio resources for the transmission of a packet resource request and the MS sends a second packet resource request for the allocation of the radio resources, such that Widegren will adopt a 2-phase access request approach between a mobile station and network by generating and sending from the terminal to the network a first radio resource request for allocating a radio resource for transmission of a second radio resource request.

The motivation to do so is to provide an alternative to the 1-phase approach for allocating radio resources to a mobile station in a GSM network.

Regarding claim 25, the combined method of Widegren and the admitted prior art of the instant application discloses all the aspects of the claimed invention as set forth in the rejection of claim 24 above, except fails to explicitly show the packet resource request message comprises a specific one bit long bit field.

However, Widegren discloses a multimedia call setup in a GPRS network, comprises service nodes for analyzing the types of parameters involved for the call including data type such as real time versus non real-time (non real-time service, see lines 54-64, col. 11).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the radio resource allocation method of Widegren such that the

packet channel request message would include a one bit value to indicate whether a service is real-time or non real-time. Having provided a one-bit data type field in the packet channel request message and a processing means for analyzing the type of service requested would modify the radio resource allocation of Widegren.

The motivation to do so is to provide a mechanism for requesting and distinguishing a non real-time service from a real-time service in a packet switched system because both real-time service such as audio and video and non real-time service such as Internet data would need to be supported in a packet switched system.

Regarding claim 26, Widegren discloses the radio resource allocation is implemented on the RLC/MAC layer of GPRS system (radio resource allocation is implemented on the RLC/MAC layer of a GPRS network, see lines 32-35, col. 13 and Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 27, Widegren discloses all the aspects of claim 24 above, except fails to disclose a method according to claim 24, wherein sending said first radio resource request comprises sending a packet channel request of a general packet radio service system, and sending said second radio resource request comprises sending a packet resource request of a general packet radio service system.

However, the instant application discloses on page 5, lines 22-28 in the background of the invention that in a 2-phase network access of a GSM network, it is well-known in the art that a mobile station MS first sends a packet channel request, wherein it only asks the network for radio resources for the transmission of a packet resource request. After again receiving a specific

assignment message from the network, the MS sends a second packet resource request for the allocation of the radio resources.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the with radio resource allocation system and method of Widegren with the teaching of the background disclosure of the instant application in having a 2-phase access request from a mobile station to a network so that a mobile station MS first sends a packet channel request, wherein it only asks the network for radio resources for the transmission of a packet resource request and the MS sends a second packet resource request for the allocation of the radio resources, such that Widegren will adopt the 2-phase access request approach in that sending said first radio resource request comprises sending a packet channel request of a general packet radio service system, and sending said second radio resource request comprises sending a packet resource request of a general packet radio service system.

The motivation to do so is to provide an alternative to the 1-phase approach for allocating radio resources to a mobile station in a GSM network.

Regarding claim 28, Widegren discloses all the aspects of claim 24 above, except fails to explicitly show a method according to claim 24, wherein said second radio resource request comprises a one bit long bit field, wherein:

- a defined first value of said one bit long bit field indicates that radio resource is requested for packet-switched implementation of a real-time service; and

- a defined second value of said one bit long bit field indicates that radio resource is requested for packet-switched implementation of a non-real-time service.

However, Widegren discloses a multimedia call setup in a GPRS network, comprises service nodes for analyzing the types of parameters involved for the call including data type such as real time versus non real-time (non real-time service, see lines 54-64, col. 11).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the radio resource allocation method of Widegren such that said second radio resource request comprises a one bit long bit field, wherein: a defined first value of said one bit long bit field indicates that radio resource is requested for packet-switched implementation of a real-time service; and a defined second value of said one bit long bit field indicates that radio resource is requested for packet-switched implementation of a non-real-time service. Having provided a one-bit data type field in the packet channel request message and a processing means for analyzing the type of service requested would modify the radio resource allocation of Widegren.

The motivation to do so is to provide a mechanism for requesting and distinguishing a non real-time service from a real-time service in a packet switched system because both real-time service such as audio and video and non real-time service such as Internet data would need to be supported in a packet switched system.

Regarding claim 34, Widegren discloses a method for allocating radio resources in a packet-switched data transmission system, in which system a terminal is capable of communicating with a network over a radio interface by using packet transfer mode, wherein the method comprises:

receiving at the network a second radio resource request sent by the terminal for allocating a radio resource to the terminal for packet-switched communication (receiving request for a radio access bearer at UTRAN for allocating channel resource for communication with a mobile radio, col. 2, lines 58-61, col. 12, lines 1-11),

the second radio resource request comprises an express indication that the radio resource is requested for a real-time service (the radio bearer request analyzes the type of data to determine whether the radio resource requested is for real time data, col. 11, lines 52-65), wherein the method comprises:

the radio resource request is implemented by a protocol layer (radio access bearers are mapped to RLC/MAC layer) which defines procedures that enable radio resources to be allocated (channel resources are allocated, col. 13, lines 31-43) and divided among multiple users (selection of a radio channel for each particular mobile station, col. 13, lines 31-43), the method further comprising:

allocating, by a network element, the requested radio resource for packet-switched implementation of a real-time service (allocating by radio access bearer controller channel connection for the real-time service, col. 12, lines 1-11).

Widegren does not explicitly show receiving at the network a first radio resource request sent by the terminal for allocating radio resource for transmission of a second radio resource request; allocating, by network element, the requested radio resource to the terminal.

However, the instant application discloses on page 5, lines 22-28 in the background of the invention that in a 2-phase network access of a GSM network, it is well-known in the art that a mobile station MS first sends a packet channel request, wherein it only asks the network for

radio resources for the transmission of a packet resource request. After again receiving a specific assignment message from the network, the MS sends a second packet resource request for the allocation of the radio resources.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the with radio resource allocation system and method of Widegren with the teaching of the background disclosure of the instant application in having a 2-phase access request from a mobile station to a network so that a mobile station MS first sends a packet channel request, wherein it only asks the network for radio resources for the transmission of a packet resource request and the MS sends a second packet resource request for the allocation of the radio resources, such that Widegren will adopt a 2-phase access request approach between a mobile station and network by receiving at the network a first radio resource request sent by the terminal for allocating radio resource for transmission of a second radio resource request; allocating, by network element, the requested radio resource to the terminal.

The motivation to do so is to provide an alternative to the 1-phase approach for allocating radio resources to a mobile station in a GSM network.

Regarding claim 42, Widegren discloses a terminal for communication, wherein the terminal is configured for communication with a network over a radio interface by using packet transfer mode, the terminal comprising:

the processor (core network generates a radio access bearer request from UTRAN for communication with a mobile radio, col. 2, lines 58-61 and Fig. 1) and transmitter (GPRS service node for sending radio bearer access request to UTRAN, col. 12, lines 1-11, Fig. 1) are

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configured to send and generate from the terminal to the network (sending request for a radio bearer to a UTRAN network, col. 12, lines 1-11), after the network allocates the requested radio resource, the second radio resource request from the terminal to the network for allocating a radio resource to the terminal for packet-switched communication (service node requests a radio access bearer from UTRAN for communication with a mobile radio, col. 2, lines 58-61);

the second radio resource request comprises an express indication on whether the radio resource is requested for a real-time service (the radio bearer request analyzes the type of data to determine whether the radio resource requested is for real time data, col. 11, lines 52-65), and

a protocol layer for defining procedures that enable radio resources to be allocated (radio access bearers are mapped to RLC/MAC layer to allocate channel resources, col. 13, lines 31-43) and divided among multiple users (selection of a radio channel for each particular mobile station, col. 13, lines 31-43), the protocol layer being configured to implement said radio resource request (radio bearer request is processed, col. 13, lines 31-43),

the terminal is configured to include into the radio resource request an express indication on whether radio resource is requested for a real-time service. (the radio access bearer request includes type of data to indicate whether the request is real time or non-real time, col. 11, lines 52-65).

Widegren does not explicitly show a processor and transmitter for generating and sending from the terminal to the network a first radio resource request for allocating radio resource for transmission of a second radio resource request.

However, the instant application discloses on page 5, lines 22-28 in the background of the invention that in a 2-phase network access of a GSM network, it is well-known in the art that a mobile station MS first sends a packet channel request, wherein it only asks the network for radio resources for the transmission of a packet resource request. After again receiving a specific assignment message from the network, the MS sends a second packet resource request for the allocation of the radio resources.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the with radio resource allocation system and method of Widegren with the teaching of the background disclosure of the instant application in having a 2-phase access request from a mobile station to a network so that a mobile station MS first sends a packet channel request, wherein it only asks the network for radio resources for the transmission of a packet resource request and the MS sends a second packet resource request for the allocation of the radio resources, such that Widegren will adopt a 2-phase access request approach between a mobile station and network by showing show a processor and transmitter for generating and sending from the terminal to the network a first radio resource request for allocating radio resource for transmission of a second radio resource request.

The motivation to do so is to provide an alternative to the 1-phase approach for allocating radio resources to a mobile station in a GSM network.

Regarding claim 43, the combined method of Widegren and the admitted prior art of the instant application discloses all the aspects of the claimed invention as set forth in the rejection of claim 42 above, except fails to explicitly show the packet resource request message comprises

a specific one bit long bit field for identifying said second radio resource request as a radio resource request for packet-switched implementation of a real-time service.

However, Widegren discloses a multimedia call setup in a GPRS network, comprises service nodes for analyzing the types of parameters involved for the call including data type such as real time versus non real-time (non real-time service, see lines 54-64, col. 11).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the radio resource allocation method of Widegren such that the packet channel request message would include a one bit value to indicate whether a service is real-time or non real-time. Having provided a one-bit data type field in the packet channel request message and a processing means for analyzing the type of service requested would modify the radio resource allocation of Widegren.

The motivation to do so is to provide a mechanism for requesting and distinguishing a non real-time service from a real-time service in a packet switched system because both real-time service such as audio and video and non real-time service such as Internet data would need to be supported in a packet switched system.

Regarding claim 44, Widegren discloses a terminal according to claim 42, wherein said radio resource allocation is implemented on the RLC/MAC layer of GPRS system (radio resource allocation is implemented on the RLC/MAC layer of a GPRS network, see lines 32-35, col. 13 and Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 45, Widegren discloses all the aspects of claim 24 above, except fails to disclose a method according to claim 42, wherein sending said first radio resource request comprises sending a packet channel request of a general packet radio service system, and sending said second radio resource request comprises sending a packet resource request of a general packet radio service system.

However, the instant application discloses on page 5, lines 22-28 in the background of the invention that in a 2-phase network access of a GSM network, it is well-known in the art that a mobile station MS first sends a packet channel request, wherein it only asks the network for radio resources for the transmission of a packet resource request. After again receiving a specific assignment message from the network, the MS sends a second packet resource request for the allocation of the radio resources.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the with radio resource allocation system and method of Widegren with the teaching of the background disclosure of the instant application in having a 2-phase access request from a mobile station to a network so that a mobile station MS first sends a packet channel request, wherein it only asks the network for radio resources for the transmission of a packet resource request and the MS sends a second packet resource request for the allocation of the radio resources, such that Widegren will adopt the 2-phase access request approach in that sending said first radio resource request comprises sending a packet channel request of a general packet radio service system, and sending said second radio resource request comprises sending a packet resource request of a general packet radio service system.

The motivation to do so is to provide an alternative to the 1-phase approach for allocating radio resources to a mobile station in a GSM network.

Regarding claim 46, Widegren discloses all the aspects of claim 24 above, except fails to explicitly show a terminal according to claim 42, wherein said second radio resource request comprises a one bit long bit field, wherein:

a defined first value of said one bit long bit field indicates that radio resource is requested for packet-switched implementation of a real-time service; and

a defined second value of said one bit long bit field indicates that radio resource is requested for packet-switched implementation of a non-real-time service.

However, Widegren discloses a multimedia call setup in a GPRS network, comprises service nodes for analyzing the types of parameters involved for the call including data type such as real time versus non real-time (non real-time service, see lines 54-64, col. 11).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the radio resource allocation method of Widegren such that said second radio resource request comprises a one bit long bit field, wherein: a defined first value of said one bit long bit field indicates that radio resource is requested for packet-switched implementation of a real-time service; and a defined second value of said one bit long bit field indicates that radio resource is requested for packet-switched implementation of a non-real-time service. Having provided a one-bit data type field in the packet channel request message and a processing means for analyzing the type of service requested would modify the radio resource allocation of Widegren.

The motivation to do so is to provide a mechanism for requesting and distinguishing a non real-time service from a real-time service in a packet switched system because both real-time service such as audio and video and non real-time service such as Internet data would need to be supported in a packet switched system.

Regarding claim 47, Widegren also discloses a terminal according to claim 42, wherein said terminal is one of the following: a mobile terminal of a cellular network or a computer terminal (GPRS service node, Fig. 1) that is configured to communicate via a mobile terminal of a cellular network.

Regarding claim 48, Widegren also discloses a terminal according to claim 42, wherein the real-time service is selected from a group consisting of: transmission of speech, transmission of video image (speech, video, col. 10, lines 34-37).

Regarding claim 54, Widegren discloses an apparatus (UTRAN, Fig. 1) for allocating radio resources in a packet-switched data transmission system, in which system a terminal (GPRS service node, Fig. 1) is capable of communicating with a network over a radio interface by using packet transfer mode, wherein the apparatus comprises:

the apparatus is configured to subsequently receive at the network the second radio resource request sent by the terminal for allocating radio resource to the terminal for packet-switched communication (UTRAN receives the radio bearer request sent by the GPRS service node for allocating radio resource for real-time data, col. 11, lines 52-65), wherein the second

radio resource request comprises an express indication on whether the radio resource is requested for a real-time service (the radio bearer request analyzes the type of data to determine whether the radio resource requested is for real time data, col. 11, lines 52-65), and

the apparatus is configured to allocate the requested radio resource for packet-switched implementation of a real-time service (UTRAN allocates radio resource for real-time data, col. 11, lines 52-65), wherein

the radio resource request is implemented by a protocol layer (radio access bearers are mapped to RLC/MAC layer) which defines procedures that enable radio resources to be allocated (channel resources are allocated, col. 13, lines 31-43) and divided among multiple users (selection of a radio channel for each particular mobile station, col. 13, lines 31-43).

Widgren does not explicitly show a receiver for receiving at the network a first radio resource request sent by the terminal for allocating a radio resource to the terminal for transmission of a second radio resource request; a control unit for allocating the requested radio resource to the terminal.

However, the instant application discloses on page 5, lines 22-28 in the background of the invention that in a 2-phase network access of a GSM network, it is well-known in the art that a mobile station MS first sends a packet channel request, wherein it only asks the network for radio resources for the transmission of a packet resource request. After again receiving a specific assignment message from the network, the MS sends a second packet resource request for the allocation of the radio resources.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the with radio resource allocation system and method of

Widegren with the teaching of the background disclosure of the instant application in having a 2-phase access request from a mobile station to a network so that a mobile station MS first sends a packet channel request, wherein it only asks the network for radio resources for the transmission of a packet resource request and the MS sends a second packet resource request for the allocation of the radio resources, such that Widegren will adopt a 2-phase access request approach between a mobile station and network by having a receiver for receiving at the network a first radio resource request sent by the terminal for allocating a radio resource to the terminal for transmission of a second radio resource request; a control unit for allocating the requested radio resource to the terminal.

The motivation to do so is to provide an alternative to the 1-phase approach for allocating radio resources to a mobile station in a GSM network.

Regarding claim 55, Widegren discloses an apparatus according to claim 54, wherein said apparatus comprises said protocol layer (RLC/MAC layer, col. 13, lines 31-52) and is configured to identify said radio resource request as a radio resource request for packet-switched implementation of a real-time service (identify radio bearer access request, col. 12, lines 1-11) and to allocate the requested radio resource (selection of appropriate type of radio channel resource, col. 13, lines 31-52).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 24-28, 34, 42-48, 54-55 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Mew whose telephone number is 571-272-3141. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 am - 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Seema Rao can be reached on 571-272-3174. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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